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CLASSIFIED ~~TOP SECRET~~ ~~DIRNSA NOFORN DISSEM~~ SECTION ONE OF TWO CIA 5WPEPPM

CIB 320 13 AUGS 1964

4 DAILY BRIEF ITEMS 1 NOTE

//SLANTS INDICATE NOFORN//

CLASSIFIED NORTH NETNAM: THE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON THE  
US DESTROYER MADDOX BY THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE TOR-  
PEDO BOATS ON 2 AUGUST WAS PLANNED AND ORDERED BY  
CLAND-BASED NAVAL AUTHORITIES.

INTERCEPTED NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL COMMUNICA-  
TIONS INDICATE THAT THE ATTACK WAS DIRECTED FROM SAM  
SON AND PORT WALLUT. HANOI'S NAAL UNITS HAVE DISPLAYED  
INCREASING SENSITIVITY TO US AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL  
ACTIVITY IN THE GULF OF TONKIN DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

CLASSIFIED THE MADDOX ON A RECONNAISSANCE PATROL, WAS  
~~EAST OF THANH HOA AND APPROXIMATELY 22 MILES FROM~~  
THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COAST WHEN THE ATTACKERS WERE  
FIRST DETECTED. THEY PURSUED THE DESTROYER TO A POINT  
29 KILES FROM THE SHORE WHERE THE ASSAULT, WHICH  
INCLUDED TORPEDOES AND MACHINE-GUN FIRE, WAS LAUNCHED.  
THE MADDOX WAS UNDAMAGED AND RETURNED FIRE, HITTING  
AT LEAST ONE OF THE ATTACKERS. THE TORPEDO BOATS WERE  
SUBSEQUENTLY FIRED ON BY US AIRCRAFT SUPPORTING THE  
MADDOX.

HANOI IS LIKELY TO DEPICT THE ATTACK AS AN INSTANCE  
OF US "ARMED AGGRESSION" ON NORTH VIETNAM, AND MAY  
ATTEMPT TO USE IT TO STIR INTERNATIONAL APPREHENSION  
OVER POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF US AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE  
MILITARY ACTIVITY DIRECTED AT THE NORTH. ~~SECRET~~

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